

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Embodiments of the present invention relate to the implementation of an Application Programming Interface (API) that enables platform independent plug-ins to work with
5 browser applications. In one or more embodiments of the present invention, the API allows platform independent plug-ins to use XPCOM (Cross Platform Component Object Model), a technology that allows software components of different various programming languages to communicate. In one or more embodiments of the present invention, the API enables platform independent plug-ins to take advantage of existing BlackConnect and Scriptable
10 Plug-In API technologies to integrate with the native plug-in API. Embodiments of the present invention ensures backward code compatibility by allowing the current platform independent plug-in API and browser API to remain unchanged. Furthermore, embodiments of the present invention enables platform independent plug-ins to communicate and use components created in native programming languages such as C++. This promotes
15 component reuse and eases the development effort.